

## How To Build A Float (And Other Important Information)

First you need a float platform. Most of the wards have a platform that they use each year, just ask your bishop. Remember to keep your float with-in the size requirements -**Height is not to exceed 10 feet from the ground. Platform is not to exceed 8 feet wide by 10 feet long.**

Check the platform over. The frame should be solid, not bent. The wood floor should be solid, not warped. Make sure that it has good axles and tires and that the handle is secure.

Now you need a place to build your float. A garage with a big opening is great. Remember that most garages don't have 10 foot doors, so if your float is a full 10 feet, make it detachable or moveable so that you can get it out of the garage. You don't want to build your float out in the weather. The hot sun can melt the plastic used on floats if they are left in the sun too long.

You need an idea for your float. This year's theme is **"If I Could, I Would..."** As a suggestion get several people together and discuss ideas. You might want to look in coloring books, story books, videos and cartoons. Most any idea will work, you just have to be creative in making it fit with the theme. When you have your idea, call Melissa Carter (768-0156 or (c)404-4729) and let her know. All idea's are registered on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The basic design can be made out of wood, PVC pipe, chicken wire or just about anything that will create the form you want. You can cover your float with just about anything you want. In years past petal paper, plastic pom-poms, paint, foam, glitter etc, have been used. Paper products are not recommended because the weather is unpredictable. Don't have your design go over the base of your float. If it does, you will be disqualified during the judging of the floats.

Break your work down into segments. Make sure you have enough help. If you spread it out, everyone can feel part of the process. Set small goals to reach each week. Plan on having your float done two weeks before the parade. If your goal is reached, you will have time to concentrate on the little extra things that will make your float look polished and any last minute improvements.

It is suggested you have your riders, pullers and walkers come to Wines Park at least a half hour early. This will allow time for everyone to find the float and line up. There will be no traffic allowed on 100 East from State Street to 500 North, nor will there be any traffic allowed on 600 North from Center Street to 200 East. This is for safety of all parade participants.

During the parade you will probably want to walk along with the float. A few adults are recommended and can dress in costumes as well. If you have many more adults, it blocks the view of the spectators.

At the end of the parade parents can park at the church on 3rd North then walk over to the High School to get their children. For safety reasons the police will only allow ONE vehicle per float into the parking lot to pick up the float.